

February 1, 68

Mr Joshua Lederberg,
Washington Post,
15th Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Your article January 27, 68

Dear Sir:

Giving editorial space to orthodox, academic, biochemical and transplanting seems unfair to the average reader. The papers policy might better be "the best for the most".

Your change of subject, national and international diet is a real improvement in your selection. Unfortunately your diet knowledge is thirty years out of date, or prohibited.

Your quotation of Berg, his approach is too narrow. Theory of malnutrition applies to the young and old, physical and mental.

Assigning geo physical malnutrition to "Have Nots" is not entirely correct. The impact comes from lack of diet knowledge, not from poverty, in a few cases the best fed (eating the best food for health) are the poorest nations.

You err in saying early malnutrition is beyond the reach of adequate diet. All that is needed is original good constitution if you know recent curative diets.

Your political question of funds priority is not well assigned to inability to teach "unschooled" as it would be assigned to bad teaching.

It is not true "we really know little about nutrition and the effect on physical and mental health. Such knowledge is available if wanted and such should be known by you.

Your reference to amino acid -- off the track again, biochemistry is not the territory to stop malnutrition.

In your last paragraph you admit congressional appropriations to the military instead of technical (food) is an error. You should raise the question why Congress does not appropriate funds for our national diet study.

I still believe some day you will come out in the open and write what you know about diet and how the right diet can prevent and cure illness in young and old.

There are books of the last fifty years suitable as text books, by American and English writers on nutrition and malnutrition, both prevention and cure. I believe you have read them and are unable to quote because of technical reasons, social, political and mostly because you have no medium. Newspapers and magazines are forbidden.